

REPORT MADE AT CHICAGO, ILL.	DATE WHEN MADE Jan. 9, 1935 1/11/35	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/15/35	REPORT MADE BY A. J. CONNELLEY
ALVIN KARPIS with aliases, I.O. 1009 DOCTOR JOSEPH P. MORAN with aliases, I.O. 1008 EDWARD GEORGE BREMER with aliases, I.O. 1007 et al.			CHARGE KIDNAPING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Based upon information from Monte Carter, Agents from Chicago proceeded Jacksonville, Ocala, and Oklawaha, Fla. at which latter place house occupied by Kate and Fred Barker located 1/15/35. Harry Campbell and Winona Burdett had left the previous Sunday and were expected to return that night, January 15, 1935. House was surrounded 8:30 am 1/16/35 and at 9 A.M. the persons therein were invited out of the house, and such invitation resulted in apparently both Kate and Fred Barker firing at Agents with .30 caliber spring machine guns, and automatic pistol. In the resulting fire, Agents to protect themselves against this fire, Kate and Fred Barker were killed 1/16/35. \$14,000 in \$1000 bills, and other small amounts of money recovered from them, as well as Buick coupe automobile, which have been disposed of on subpoena from St. Paul. Contents of house examined and various guns recovered and forwarded to the Division for examination. Various persons were interviewed as to the appearance of Winona Burdett, Harry Campbell, Elia Gray and Doc Barker, at Oklawaha to visit Kate and Fred Barker previously, Campbell and Winona Burdett having lived with them for a considerable time. Continuation of interview had with Winona Burdett and Dolores Delaney at Philadelphia 1/21 and 23, 1935 set out in this report.

DETAILS:

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent K. R. McIntire, dated Chicago, Ill., January 26, 1935.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	7-576-4315	RECORDED AND INDEXED FEB 9 1935
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DETAILS:

In the report of reference page 19, there is included memoranda covering admissions of WILLIAM BRYAN BOLTON alias MOWIE GARTER, which were made as a result of questioning of him by Special Agents E. B. Brown, W. L. Madala, and Special Agent in Charge E. J. Connelley, this party having taken a particular liking to Special Agent E. B. Brown, after Special Agent in Charge Connelley had given him certain assurances of fair play in connection with any statements he might make. It is noted that Bolton states that when he went to Miami in December, 1934, and returned about January 2, 1935, he did not contact any of the members of the gang in Florida, other than WILLIE HARRISON, who accompanied him on the trip. Therefore their exact location was unknown to him. However, he furnished certain definite information which indicated the location in Florida of the gang, stating that he (Bolton) and Willie Harrison, in proceeding north about thirty to fifty miles south of Macon, Georgia, met SLIM GRAY and DOC BARKER on the road at a point which would be approximately six to eight hours drive north of the place where they had been located in Florida, and where Doc and Slim had visited with Kate and Fred Barker; that they were located on a fresh water lake, somewhere near Jacksonville, Florida; that there was good deer hunting and good fishing; that they were interested in an old alligator known throughout the community as Old Joe, or Big Joe, and that they had tried to catch this alligator; that they had a motor boat on the lake; that the lake was near to Highway 41; that Fred Barker had a small Buick coupe for which the tags had been obtained in Tennessee.

On January 18, 1934, together with Agents E. B. Brown, R. L. Jones and C. G. Campbell, Special Agent in Charge Connelley proceeded to Jacksonville, Florida via plane, arriving late that night, and contacted the office, for the possibility of obtaining the name of some informant who might be familiar with the locality in the vicinity of Ocala, Florida.

On Sunday the Agents proceeded to Ocala, Florida, inasmuch as a map had been found among the effects of Doc Barker, with a circle about the town of Ocala, and also the territory which would take in Lake Weir. Agents Campbell and Jones checked Lake Bryant, about 20 miles east of Ocala, and Agent Brown and Special Agent in Charge Connelley checked Lake Weir and Lake Bowers, about 19 miles south of Ocala, for various circumstances listed. In an undercover manner, there being several places located on Highway 41 along Lake Weir, namely Weirside, East Lake, Lake Weir and Oklawaha. However, there are at the present time numerous tourists in this vicinity who are not familiar with the country, and no definite information could be obtained to identify the locality where subjects were staying.

On Monday, January 14, 1935, through former Deputy Sheriff O. L. Matthews, now jailer at Jacksonville, Florida, contact was had with MILTON DUNNING, a former Deputy Sheriff considered absolutely reliable, and a native who lives in Ocala, and he advised that an alligator of the description of the one in question was located at Lake Weir, on Highway 41, and also that a motor boat was located on this lake. Thereafter he made inquiry at the lake, of a friend who lives there, and ascertained that Old Tom, the alligator in this lake had disappeared about 1925; that he could learn nothing which would indicate that subjects were on this lake. He also made inquiry confidentially at Gainesville, without success.

On January 15, 1935, informant Dunning, with Agent Jones, proceeded to Lake Weir, and covered same in a boat, Lake Weir being about four and one half miles wide and about six miles long. On January 15, 1935, Agent Brown and Special Agent in Charge Connelley made confidential inquiry of J. T. Greenlee, Postmaster at Oklawaha, and while he could not identify any of the pictures, he indicated that persons known as Summers and Blackburn, had some time previously, the house of CARSON BRADFORD, which was quite a nice place, and had its own private motor boat. He indicated they had been receiving a little mail, and a number of newspapers, the latter being wrapped so that the paper enclosed could not be identified. He recommended one FRANK BARBER, who lives on the lane leading to the Carson Bradford place, and this party was contacted and arrangements made to pay him for his services, he being a former employee of the Leavenworth Penitentiary. He identified partially the pictures of Kate Barker and Fred Barker and Harry Campbell, as being the parties now living in the house, Campbell being identified as the party who was using the name of Summers, and Fred Barker as using the name of Blackburn. He stated that Summers had left several days before, in his car, with a woman he was living with at this place, but was expected to return to Oklawaha on Tuesday night, January 15, 1935. He indicated that he had learned this in conversation with Blackburn, who was still at the place. He indicated that Blackburn was driving a Buick coupe.

Special Agent in Charge Connelley, together with Agent Brown, observed the place discreetly, and noted KATE BARKER and FRED BARKER, who were identified from their pictures, on the place, and thereafter made arrangements to immediately withdraw informant Dunning and Agent Jones from the lake and that vicinity, and plans were made to raid the place the following morning, with the hope that Harry Campbell and the woman, evidently Winona Burdett, would return to the place that night. All inquiry and observations were carried on in such a manner as to insure these people not learning of the identity of Agents, making the allight delay before raiding safe.

Thereafter a rough map of the property in the vicinity was drawn and shown to the various Agents who were to take part in the raid, and each was designated to his particular post. In this connection there is being forwarded to the Division a rough diagram of the location of the various houses on this property, together with the respective positions of the Agents who took part in the raid on same. These had previously been forwarded to the Division a number of pictures of the grounds, the buildings, the interior and exterior, which pictures show the action which was necessary to get these parties out of the house.

On the morning of January 16, 1935, at 5.30 A.M. the various Agents assigned in this connection were moved into their positions, to prevent the escape of anyone from the house, and thereafter Agents waited until daybreak, at 7 A.M., to invite these people out of the house.

In order to insure no one being hurt should any shooting be necessary in connection with the apprehension of these parties, Agent J. T. McLaughlin was stationed a considerable distance west of the property in question on Highway 41, to stop the automobiles and divert them from this road, should any shooting start, and Agent T. G. Melvin was located to the east on Highway 41, beyond this property, for the same purpose. Agents C. B. Minstead, G. C. Koltz, W. G. Campbell and D. P. Sullivan were stationed along Highway 41 at the north edge of the property, in order to cover the exit of anyone from this house to the north or east, Agents H. D. Brown and S. E. McKee being located behind a cottage to the east of the property, to cover the exit of anyone through the lane in that direction, and Agents J. W. White, R. L. Jones, A. A. Muzzey, J. L. Madala, E. M. McDade, and Special Agent in Charge E. J. Connelley were stationed at the south west corner of the property in order to invite these people out of the house. At the south west corner of the property was located a small cottage, and two small garages, at a distance of approximately 30 yards from the house, and as soon as it was light enough to observe anyone leaving the house, Special Agent in Charge E. J. Connelley called to the occupants of the house, advising them that we were Federal officers, being Agents of the Division of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, and that they were to leave the house one at a time, and provided they did so they would not be injured, otherwise if they did not immediately leave the house it would be necessary to go the place to drive them out. For a period of approximately fifteen minutes no answer was received from the people in the house, although it was noted that apparently someone was moving about within. After about 20 minutes a tear gas shell was shot close the house, and at this time a woman who later proved to be Kate Barker, screamed. Thereafter everything was quiet in the house. During the interval above described various other Agents called to them, in order that they might definitely know that we were Federal officers. However,

SA "Doc" White has .351 rifle. Connelley has 30-06.

no response was obtained. At this time S.A.C. Connelley again called to the Barkers, addressing them by name, and asked them to come out, and the woman in the house called out in a rather distinct tone of voice, "All right, come ahead". When this remark was made, it was interpreted as meaning that they were planning to come out, and at this time S.A.C. Connelley advised them to come ahead, and that Freddie should come out first. Immediately thereafter, after a person in the upstairs rear front window fired approximately 25 to 30 shots from a machine gun at Special Agent in Charge Connelley, who was approximately 30 yards from the house, and also someone, who later, from the circumstances indicated was Fred Barker, fired rifle from the front lower part of the house, through the front door. As soon as the firing started from within the house, Special Agent J. C. White, who was backing up S.A.C. Connelley in his conversations with these parties from behind a tree about 33 yards from the house, immediately shot into the house with a .351 rifle. S.A.C. Connelley fell back to position to shoot with a 30-06 rifle, and at this time the parties in the house concentrated their fire on the tree behind which Agent White was located. Machine gun fire from the house thereafter was spread over the side of the yard and through a little grove in which were located Agents Jones and Muzzey, who had also started firing into the house. Agents Madala and Madala who were located slightly farther behind a hedge, also fired into the house, and at this time apparently the party who was then firing the machine gun from the upstairs south-west corner of the house, spread his fire farther, so that he covered the area at a distance of about 300 yards to the west of the house. It apparently such firing being at the Agents he believed to be located behind the cottage and small garages, and beyond this over their heads, his firing extending approximately to the place where Agent McLaughlin was located on the highway. At this time, in order to relieve the pressure on Agent White who was behind the tree about 33 yards from the house, S.A.C. Connelley moved into position in front of the south west corner of the house, around the small cottage, and after several shots through the front of the house, was answered by a number of machine gun bursts in that direction, and thereafter at intervals the firing continued from the house, and observation of the screens in the house later showed that they had fired from windows on all four sides of the house, apparently endeavoring to locate some of the Agents, and such fire was returned by the Agents for a period of approximately two hours.

As the firing continued it became evident that the parties in the house were endeavoring to conserve their ammunition, as they lengthened the periods between their fire, and reduced the number of shots in the bursts coming from the house. Apparently while firing from the east side of the house, these parties shot about four bullets from a .33 caliber Winchester rifle, through the house, of Mrs. A. T. Westbury, whose house is located along the lane at the east side of the Carson-Bradford property, toward the lake,

Weapons Agents had during final shots

the party firing apparently being of the opinion that some of the Agents were located at this point. During this firing Agents Muzzey and McDade endeavored to fire tear gas shells into the house from the west, and were unsuccessful in getting approximately four tear gas shells into the house, although due to the screens and mis-fire, the gas shells were not placed in the upper south west corner room. The principal firing into the house, which was concentrated on the south west corner, where subjects finally located in the upper bedroom, was done by Agent J. C. White with a .501 rifle, Agent E. J. Jones with the 30-06 rifle, Agent Muzzey with a shotgun, Agent Madala with a machine gun, Agent McDade with a machine gun, and Special Agent in Charge Connelley with a 30-06 Springfield rifle. It is estimated that the Agents fired approximately 500 rounds into the house, and that the subjects fired out of the house about 250 rounds. However, in this connection, a portion of the firing by the Agents into the house was done after the firing had ceased from within. The Agents on Highway 41 and to the east of the property also shot into the house from the north and east side thereof.

Use of colored man

After the firing had ceased from within the house, a reasonable period of time was allowed to elapse, and after checking all of the Agents who were taking part in the raid to establish that no one had been hurt, WILLIE WOODBURY, the colored man, about 25 years of age, who had been working on the place for Fred Barker at five dollars per week, and who was living in the small cottage at the south west corner of the property with his wife, was asked if he would call to Fred Barker, whom he knew as Mr. Blackburn, and invite him out of the house if he were injured, in order that he might be taken care of, assuring him that he would not be harmed if he came out in the proper manner. Willie Woodbury agreed to go up and see if he could talk with these parties if they were still alive, and at this time S. A. C. Connelley stood in front of the house while the colored man went around to the back door and front door, and called to these parties to come out, and also asked them if he could assist them in any way, and finding both doors locked, he then agreed to go into the house and see if the people were injured in such manner that they could not answer him, and at this time S. A. C. Connelley stood in front of the house. Woodbury entered the front door and went upstairs, not finding anyone downstairs, and entered the room which had been occupied by Kate Barker. He called to S. A. C. Connelley that there was no one there. He thereafter entered the south west corner bedroom which had been the room of Fred Barker. However, on this particular night Barker had moved a cot down to the front room and was sleeping on same with his head at the front door, apparently to intercept anyone who might call, and this being the point apparently from which he first fired with the .33 caliber Winchester rifle. After entering the room Woodward called out to S. A. C. Connelley: "They are both up here". S. A. C. Connelley then asked what they were doing, and he advised that "they were both dead".

Kate
Barker
w/
machine
gun

Upon entering the house it was ascertained that they had apparently fired from the downstairs through the window and front door with a .33 caliber Winchester rifle, and that they had fired from the windows in all four directions from all the rooms on the second floor, there being four bedrooms in the house. Kate Barker and Fred Barker were found dead in the south-west corner bedroom. Fred Barker was lying in the middle of the room, face down, with a .45 automatic under him and a machine gun with a 50 shot drum beyond his left hand, and Kate Barker was found in the north-east corner of this same room, lying on her back, with a machine gun at her left hand with a 100 shot drum on same. There was also found a 50 shot drum in the bedroom of Kate Barker, which had evidently been completely fired; a 50 shot drum in the gun apparently used by Fred Barker was entirely empty, and a 100 shot drum on the gun found beside Kate Barker had approximately 60 or 40 shots fired from same.

The
fatal
shots

Due to the lapse of time between the first burst of machine gun fire from the house, and the second burst, it is believed that Fred Barker probably reloaded the 50 shot drum at least once. In connection with the .45 caliber automatic found under the body of Fred Barker, same was loaded with a clip containing seven bullets, and one bullet which was still in the chamber, had been fired from same, and a shot from a 30-06 rifle had cut away part of the steel butt of this gun, causing it to jam on this one shot and making it useless. Fred Barker, judging from the position in which he fell, was apparently facing the front of the house or the south-west window on the west side of the house, and had ten bullets from either a .351 rifle or a 30-06 rifle in his left shoulder and chest, and one wound through the back of the head, which latter wound was probably the fatal wound, and Kate Barker had three bullets in the chest, one of which apparently had gone through the heart. All of these bullets had passed completely through the bodies. The firing of these subjects was particularly close to Agents J. C. White, A. A. Muzzey and R. L. Jones, who were located in a position towards which most of the firing by the subjects was concentrated.

After the firing ceased and the bodies had been located, same were not touched until the necessary arrangements could be made for the Coroner to view them, and shortly thereafter Sheriff from the surrounding counties appeared on the scene and offered their cooperation. Also, Wallace E. Sturgis, County Attorney, A. P. Bais, District Attorney, as well as A. F. Meadows, Prosecuting Attorney, and L. S. Futch, County Judge, who acts as Coroner, arrived on the scene. Prior to the time the shooting had stopped Sheriff S. C. Thomas arrived in the vicinity, and he assisted in keeping the traffic away from highway 41, while there was any shooting going on. Mr. Futch and the Sheriff then arranged for a Coroner's jury to view the bodies and arrangements were thereafter made to take them to an undertaking parlor in Ocala, Florida, where they were prepared for burial.

The Coroner's hearing was adjourned until 11 A.M., January 17, 1935, at which time S.A.C. Connelley appeared as a witness for the Government, and advised them of the identity of the two deceased persons, the reason for which they were being sought by the Division, as well as the criminal record of Fred Barker; that when these persons had been invited to come out of the house on the morning of January 15, 1935, after Agents had identified themselves, they had opened fire upon the Agents. Thereafter the Coroner's jury made its findings to the effect that Fred Barker and Kate Barker came to their death at the hands of Agents of the United States Department of Investigation, in the protection of their own lives, while the said Kate Barker and Fred Barker were resisting arrest.

Certified copies of the Coroner's jury report were obtained and one forwarded to the Division under date of January 17, 1935.

The fingerprints of Kate and Fred Barker were obtained by Special Agent J. L. Madala and forwarded to the Division.

A Buick coupe automobile was recovered in the garage at this place, as well as certain amounts of money on the body of Fred Barker and in the purse of Kate Barker, as will hereinafter be covered in more detail by the reporting Agents. There was also found in the house at this time a number of guns, and a quantity of ammunition, which will also be covered in detail by the reporting Agents who examined same, and arranged for forwarding of this equipment to the Division.